(b) if so, by when it would be done and what would be the proportion of profit?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI AJIT SINGH): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

Gainful price for farmers' produce

†3515. SHRI BACHANI LEKHRAJ: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are considering to provide attractive and gainful price to farmers, based on the total cost/expenditure on their produce;

(b) if so, the details of action taken so far in this regard; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI AJIT SINGH): (a) to (c) The Government announces each season Minimum Support Prices for 25 major agricultural commodities and organizes purchase operations whenever required, through the public and cooperative agencies. The Government decides on the minimum support prices for various agricultural commodities taking into account the recommendations of the Commission for Agricultural Costs & Prices (CACP) and other factors considered important in price fixation. While making its recommendations, the CACP considers a number of factors and cost of production is the most important factor. The cost of production covers not only paid-out costs but also imputed value of owned assets including land and family labour for which the farmers do not incur cash expenses. The minimum support prices fixed by the Government not only cover cost of production but also a reasonable margin as an incentive to the farmers to invest and improve production and productivity.

Purchase of Air Conditioners at IASRI

3516. SHRI A. VIJAYA RAGHAVAN: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Director, Indian Agricultural Statistics Research Institute (IASRI) under indian Council of Agricultural Research has recently furnished his office room with new Air Conditioners / Carpet etc. whereas the room was already having these facilities in good / working condition;

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.